UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/387
12 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 11 MAY 1998 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION 661 (1990) CONCERNING THE SITUATION BETWEEN IRAQ AND KUWAIT ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith for the attention of the members of the Council the report of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait pursuant to paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines to facilitate full international implementation of paragraphs 24, 25 and 27 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991).

The report was approved by the Committee on 11 May 1998.

(Signed) António MONTEIRO
Chairman
Security Council Committee established
by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the
situation between Iraq and Kuwait

98-13044 (E) 120598

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Annex

Report of the Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait pursuant to paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines to facilitate full international implementation of paragraphs 24, 25 and 27 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991)

1. The present report is submitted by the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, in accordance with paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines, for facilitating full international implementation of paragraphs 24, 25 and 27 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, approved by Security Council resolution 700 (1991) of 17 June 1991 (S/22660, annex).

2. Under paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines, the Committee is required to report at 90-day intervals to the Security Council on the implementation of the arms and related sanctions against Iraq contained in the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. The present report is the twenty-eighth of such reports submitted under the above-mentioned guidelines.

3. By paragraph 12 of the guidelines, all States are requested to report to the Committee any information that may have come to their attention relating to possible violations of the arms and related sanctions against Iraq committed by other States or foreign nationals. During the period under review, no such information has been brought to the attention of the Committee.

4. In accordance with paragraphs 13 and 15 of the guidelines, all States and international organizations are required to consult the Committee on the question of whether certain items fall within the provisions of paragraph 24 of resolution 687 (1991), as well as in cases relating to dual-use or multiple-use items, that is, items meant for civilian use but with potential for diversion or conversion to military use. During the period covered by the report, no States or international organizations have consulted the Committee on these questions.

5. By paragraph 14 of the guidelines, international organizations are requested to take all appropriate steps to assist in ensuring full compliance with the arms and related sanctions against Iraq, including providing to the Committee any relevant information that may come to their attention. During the period under review, the Committee has not received any information as requested by paragraph 14 of the guidelines.

6. The Committee will continue its efforts to fulfil the mandate entrusted to it by the Security Council. Since the last report of the Secretary-General, dated 4 December 1991 (S/22884/Add.2), no further communication has been received from Member States pursuant to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 700 (1991).

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/388
13 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 8 MAY 1998 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Operation in Cyprus.

On 30 June 1998, Mr. Gustave Feissel will be relinquishing his post as Deputy Special Representative and Chief of Mission in Cyprus. Following the usual consultations, I wish to inform the Security Council of my intention to appoint Ms. Ann Hercus (New Zealand) to the above-mentioned position, with effect from 1 July 1998.

Mr. Feissel will be retiring from United Nations service after a long and distinguished career. I wish to place on record my warm appreciation for the important contribution he has made to the work of the Organization and particularly to its efforts to keep the peace and to bring about a comprehensive settlement in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

98-13222 (E) 130598

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/389
13 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 13 MAY 1998 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 8 May 1998 (S/1998/388) concerning your intention to appoint Ms. Ann Hercus (New Zealand) as Deputy Special Representative and Chief of Mission in Cyprus has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. They agree with the intention contained in your letter.

(Signed) Njuguna M. MAHUGU, OGW
President of the Security Council

98-13228 (E) 130598

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/390
14 May 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements of its President,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan of 6 May 1998 (S/1998/374),

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Tajikistan and to the inviolability of its borders,

Expressing regret that during the past three months progress in the peace process has been very slow,

Expressing concern at the precarious security situation in some parts of Tajikistan,

Expressing further concern at violations of the ceasefire in Tajikistan,

Welcoming the intensified contacts between the leaderships of the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition (UTO) which helped to contain the crises in the period covered by the report of the Secretary-General and confirmed the commitment of both parties to the peace process,

Recognizing that comprehensive international support remains essential for the intensification of the peace process in Tajikistan,

Welcoming the maintenance of close contact by the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) with the parties, as well as its cooperative liaison with the Collective Peacekeeping Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States (the CIS Peacekeeping Forces), the Russian border forces and the Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Welcoming further the contribution of the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations to the peace process,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of 6 May 1998;

2. Condemns renewed fighting in violation of the ceasefire resulting from attacks initiated by some local UTO commanders, and calls upon all concerned to refrain from acts of violence;

3. Calls upon the parties to undertake vigorous efforts to implement fully the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan (S/1997/510), including the Protocol on military issues (S/1997/209, annex II), and to create conditions for the holding of elections at the earliest possible time;

4. Calls upon the parties, with the involvement of UNMOT and the Contact Group, to implement the timetable of measures adopted by the Commission on National Reconciliation (CNR) on 29 April 1998, notably, and as a matter of priority, the implementation of the Protocol on military issues and the appointment of UTO representatives to the remaining government positions allocated to them, as well as the implementation of the amnesty law;

5. Notes with appreciation the work of the retiring Special Representative of the Secretary-General, commends the efforts of all the personnel of UNMOT and encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement;

6. Calls upon the parties to intensify their efforts to bring into operation as soon as possible a joint security unit tasked with providing security for UNMOT personnel, and to cooperate further in ensuring the safety and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the CIS Peacekeeping Forces, and other international personnel;

7. Encourages UNMOT and the CIS Peacekeeping Forces to continue discussion of options for improving security cooperation;

8. Calls upon Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously to the consolidated appeal for Tajikistan for 1998 launched in Geneva in March 1998, and expresses the hope that the meeting of the Consultative Group to be held by the World Bank on 20 May 1998 will bring positive results;

9. Decides to extend the mandate of UNMOT for a period of six months until 15 November 1998;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of all significant developments, in particular regarding the security situation, and also requests him to report within three months of the adoption of this resolution on its implementation;

11. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/391
14 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE

(for the period from 15 November 1997 to 14 May 1998)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report gives an account of the activities of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) during the past six months in pursuance of the mandate contained in Security Council resolution 350 (1974) and extended by subsequent resolutions, most recently by resolution 1139 (1997) of 21 November 1997.

II. SITUATION IN THE AREA AND ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

2. During the period under review the ceasefire in the Israel-Syria sector was maintained without serious incident and the Force's area of operation remained calm. UNDOF supervised the area of separation by means of fixed positions and patrols to ensure that no military forces were in it. The Force also carried out fortnightly inspections of armament and force levels in the areas of limitation. Liaison officers from the party concerned accompanied the inspection teams. As in the past, both sides denied inspection teams access to some of their positions and imposed some restrictions on the Force's freedom of movement. UNDOF assisted the International Committee of the Red Cross with facilities for mail and the passage of persons through the area of separation. Within the means available, medical treatment was provided to the local population on request.

3. Since last November, earthworks have been under way in the area of separation for a large agricultural project funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The Israel Defence Forces expressed concern about possible military implications of the work, particularly stone walls made up of rocks cleared from the fields. UNDOF discussed this with IFAD and the Syrian authorities, who have affirmed the purely civilian nature of the project. They have also agreed to make a number of adjustments, including the removal of stone walls in certain locations.

4. As of May 1998, UNDOF comprised 1,048 troops from Austria, Canada, Japan and Poland (460, 186, 45 and 357 troops respectively). By the end of May, a Slovakian platoon will replace an Austrian platoon as an integral part of the Austrian battalion. UNDOF was assisted in the performance of its tasks by 76 military observers detailed from the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). Major-General David Stapleton continued as Force Commander. A map showing the Force's deployment is attached.

III. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

5. By its resolution 51/232 of 13 June 1997, the General Assembly appropriated to the Special Account for UNDOF an amount of $33,616,400 gross for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998. The assessment of the appropriation, which is equivalent to $2,801,366 gross per month, is subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the current mandate of UNDOF.

6. The budget proposed for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999 (A/52/771/Add.1 and Corr.1) is currently under consideration by the General Assembly. Subject to the Assembly's decision, the cost of maintaining UNDOF at its authorized strength for that period would be $33,643,900 gross. This amount does not include UNDOF's share in the peacekeeping support account, which is also before the General Assembly.

7. Unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for UNDOF as at 30 April 1998 amounted to $50.3 million. Total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at 30 April 1998 amounted to $1.5 billion.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 (1973)

8. In deciding in its resolution 1139 (1997) to renew the mandate of UNDOF for a further period of six months, the Security Council also called upon the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) and requested the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of the period, a report on the developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement that resolution. The search for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East and, in particular, the efforts undertaken at various levels to implement Security Council resolution 338 (1973) were dealt with in my report on the situation in the Middle East (A/52/467), submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 51/28 of 4 December 1996.

V. OBSERVATIONS

9. UNDOF, which was established in May 1974 to supervise the ceasefire called for by the Security Council and the agreement on disengagement between Israeli and Syrian forces of 31 May 1974, has continued to perform its functions effectively, with the cooperation of the parties. The situation in the Israeli-Syrian sector has remained quiet and there has been no serious incident.

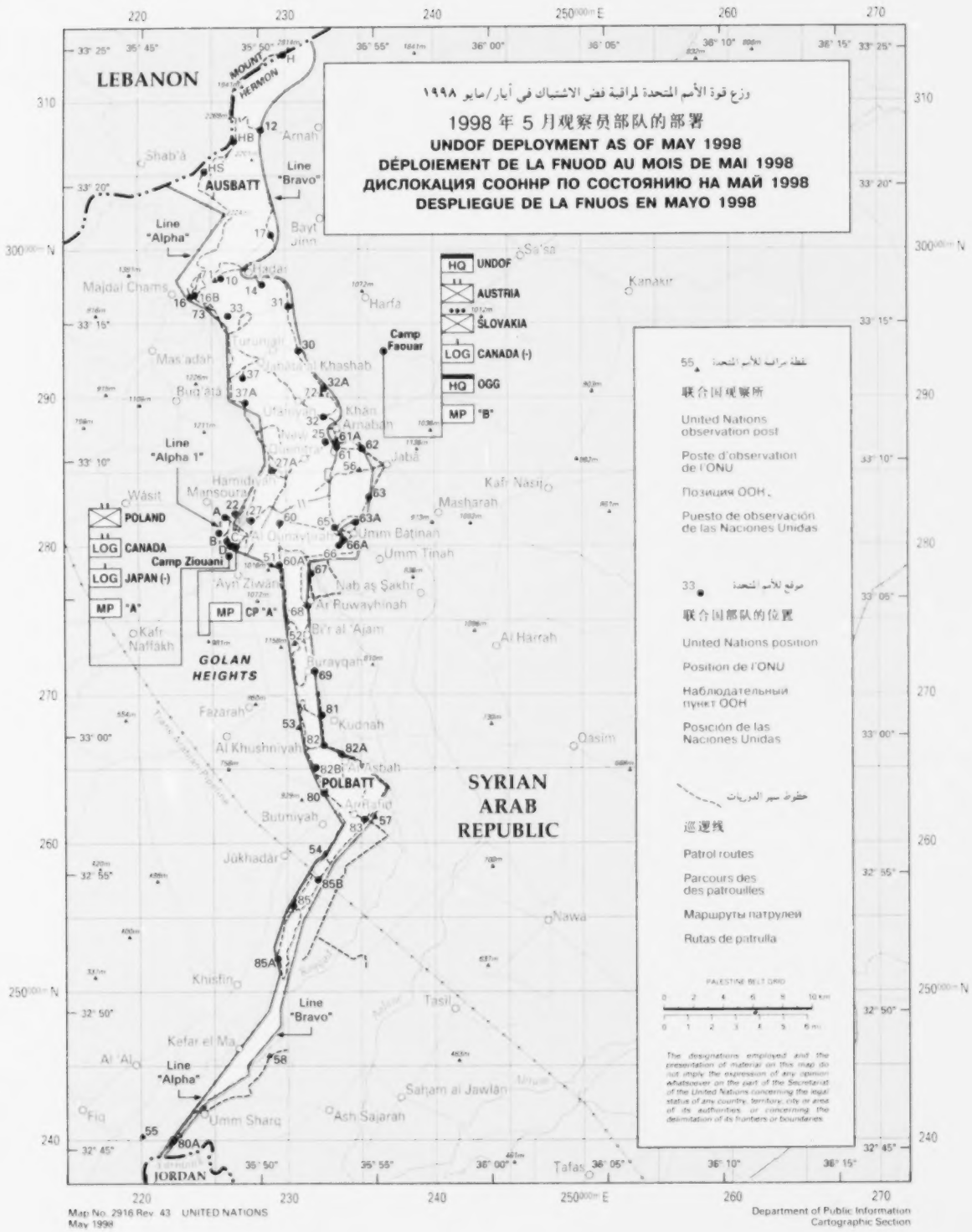
10. Despite the present quiet in the Israeli-Syrian sector, the situation in the Middle East continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached. I hope that determined efforts will be made by all concerned to tackle the problem in all its aspects, with a view to arriving at a just and durable peace settlement, as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 338 (1973).

11. In the prevailing circumstances, I consider the continued presence of UNDOF in the area to be essential. I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force for a further period of six months, until 30 November 1998. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has given its assent to the proposed extension. The Government of Israel has also expressed its agreement.

12. In making this recommendation, I must draw attention to the serious shortfall in the funding of the Force. At present, unpaid assessments amount to some $50.3 million. This sum, far larger than the current annual budget of UNDOF, represents money owed to Member States that contribute the troops who make up the Force. I appeal to all Member States to pay their assessments promptly and in full and to clear all remaining arrears.

13. When touring the Middle East earlier this year, I took the opportunity to visit UNDOF headquarters, where I met with the Force Commander and his senior military and civilian staff. This visit, which took place on 22 March, confirmed to me that UNDOF continues to carry out its important peacekeeping mandate in an exemplary manner.

14. In conclusion, I wish to pay tribute to Major-General David Stapleton and to the men and women under his command. They have performed with efficiency and devotion to duty the important tasks assigned to them by the Security Council. I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Governments contributing troops to UNDOF and to those that provide the UNTSO military observers assigned to the Force.


وزع قوة الأمم المتحدة لمراقبة فض الاشتباك في أيار/مايو ١٩٩٨
1998 年 5 月观察员部队的部署
UNDOF DEPLOYMENT AS OF MAY 1998
DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA FNUOD AU MOIS DE MAI 1998
ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ СООННР ПО СОСТОЯНИЮ НА МАЙ 1998
DESPLIEGUE DE LA FNUOS EN MAYO 1998
LEBANON
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
JORDAN
GOLAN HEIGHTS
MOUNT HERMON
AUSBATT
POLBATT
Camp Faouar
Camp Ziouani
Line "Alpha"
Line "Alpha 1"
Line "Bravo"
HQ UNDOF
AUSTRIA
ŠLOVAKIA
LOG CANADA (-)
HQ OGG
MP "B"
POLAND
LOG CANADA
LOG JAPAN (-)
MP "A"
MP CP "A"
United Nations observation post
Poste d'observation de l'ONU
Позиция ООН
Puesto de observación de las Naciones Unidas
United Nations position
Position de l'ONU
Наблюдательный пункт ООН
Posición de las Naciones Unidas
Patrol routes
Parcours des des patrouilles
Маршруты патрулей
Rutas de patrulla
PALESTINE BELT GRID
The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
Map No. 2916 Rev. 43 UNITED NATIONS
May 1998
Department of Public Information
Cartographic Section

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/392
14 May 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 13 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I wish to inform you of the following.

At 10.35 a.m. on 8 May 1998, three United States military helicopters hovered over the ship Chettinad Princed, registered in Pakistan, which was carrying a cargo of wheat to Iraq under the "oil-for-food" programme. The ship was in Khawr Abdullah near buoy No. 9 in Iraqi territorial waters and heading for the port of Umm Qasr. The ship's pilot was instructed by the crew of the helicopters to return to sea in order to undergo an inspection. However, the waters near buoy No. 9 are not conducive to such a manoeuvre, since the channel is narrow and there is a strong current. The pilot therefore informed the captain of the ship that turning the ship around might cause it to run aground. After the captain had communicated with the crew of the helicopters, they permitted the ship to enter Umm Qasr and the captain was informed that the inspection of the ship and its records would be conducted after it had discharged its cargo and returned to sea. The helicopters flew out to sea at 11.30 a.m.

I request you to intervene with the United States Government to induce it to end such unjustified and aggressive acts, which run counter to the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law and threaten the sovereignty and security of a State Member of the United Nations.

I also reaffirm Iraq's legally established right to seek compensation for the harm inflicted upon it by these provocative acts.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-13443 (E) 140598 140598

UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/899
S/1998/393
14 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda items 36, 37 and 87
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 14 May 1998 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Today the Palestinian people solemnly commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of al-nakba (the catastrophe), the dispossession of our people and the uprooting of over 750,000 Palestinians from their land and homes. To mark this day, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, a million person march was organized throughout all the Palestinian cities, villages and refugee camps.

As if the bitterness and pain of the occasion were not enough, the occupying Israeli army opened fire indiscriminately against participants in the march, killing eight people, two of whom were eight-year-old children, and injuring approximately 400 others. Several of those injured remain in critical condition. The eight killings were committed in several places in the Gaza Strip, in particular near the illegal settlement of "Gush Katif". The injuries were widespread throughout the occupied Palestinian territory. Furthermore, another crime was committed against the holy places in Jerusalem. Last night a bunch of Israeli fanatics burned Bab Al-Ghawanima, one of the gates of Al-Haram Al-Sharif. This is yet another in the long history of acts of desecration by Israeli fanatics, which were not prevented by the occupying Israeli authorities.

These crimes, which are typical of the occupying Power and which are now added to the long criminal record of Israeli actions and oppressive measures against the Palestinian people, must be condemned by the international community in the strongest terms. The world must stop the Israeli Government of Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu before it plunges the region into an even more dire and unstable situation. The Security Council, as the body responsible for the

maintenance of international peace and security, should take action in this regard.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under items 36, 37 and 87, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/900
S/1998/394
14 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 64
COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN
TREATY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 14 May 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the statement of the Australian Prime Minister dated 12 May 1998 concerning the conduct of nuclear tests by India.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter, together with its annex, issued as a document of the General Assembly, under item 64, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Caroline MILLAR
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

98-13469 (E) 140598 150598

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Annex

Statement dated 12 May 1998 by the Australian Prime Minister, the Honourable John Howard, on the Indian nuclear tests

India's action in conducting three underground nuclear tests is an ill-judged step that could have most damaging consequences for security in south Asia and globally.

Australia has a direct security interest in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Indian tests are in flagrant defiance of the international community's strong support for nuclear non-proliferation and its opposition to nuclear testing. To date, 186 countries are party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and 149 countries have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

India's neighbours will naturally be concerned about the tests but a nuclear arms race is not the way to address the issue of maintaining stability in south Asia. The Government urges them not to respond in ways that would further destabilize security in the region.

The Foreign Minister has called in the Indian High Commissioner today to convey our condemnation of the tests in the strongest possible terms. The same message will be registered by our High Commission in New Delhi.

The Government is recalling our High Commissioner from New Delhi for consultations. Further action will be decided in the light of those consultations and discussions with other countries that share our concern.

UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/902
S/1998/395
14 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda items 40, 61, 71 and 76
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
QUESTION OF CYPRUS
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT
STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND COOPERATION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 14 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 13 May 1998, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plûmer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex which contains a letter of His Excellency Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, dated 13 May 1998, would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 40, 61, 71 and 76, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volkan VURAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 13 May 1998 from the Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the letter dated 13 May 1998, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, concerning the recent suggestions of the Russian Federation on demilitarization, as contained in document A/52/876-S/1998/346 dated 27 April 1998.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its enclosure circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 40, 61, 71 and 76, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Enclosure

Letter dated 13 May 1998 from the President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus addressed to the Secretary-General

Turkish Cypriot views and concerns on demilitarization have been repeatedly made known in the past and I had no intention of bringing this subject up especially at this crucial juncture in the Cyprus question, when all our efforts should be directed towards the creation of a new basis for dialogue. However, in the light of the recent suggestions of the Russian Federation on demilitarization, which have also been circulated as a United Nations document, I felt there was now a need to reiterate our views on this issue.

I wish to stress at the outset that, in accordance with the basic principles of the Cyprus negotiating process, only the Secretary-General of the United Nations, under whose auspices the negotiations are being conducted, has the mandate to make suggestions, in consultation with both sides, on any aspect of the Cyprus question. Demilitarization of Cyprus has never been on the agenda of the United Nations as a subject to be discussed and agreed to during the negotiating process but rather as an ultimate objective to be taken up by the parties after an overall settlement. In fact, paragraph 53 of the United Nations "set of ideas" states that "the demilitarization of the federal republic remains an objective". Naturally, the realization of this long-term objective will depend on the development of trust and confidence between the two peoples of the island.

Greek Cypriot insincerity and hypocrisy on this subject is evident from its amassing of weapons; its military preparations carried out within the context of the so-called Joint Military Doctrine, including the opening of the Paphos air base for the use of the Greek Air Force and the impending deployment of the sophisticated S-300 missiles on the island. With these endeavours, the Greek Cypriot side has demonstrated that it is bent on escalating the conflict rather than resolving it. In fact, we have no doubt that the Greek Cypriot-inspired ideas of addressing the issue of demilitarization prior to a settlement are aimed at diluting and eventually doing away with the Treaties of Guarantee and of Alliance, the only effective instruments which prevented the Greek-Greek Cypriot front from taking over Cyprus.

Indeed, there is still no indication that the Greek Cypriots have abandoned their aim of converting Cyprus into a Greek Cypriot state. On the contrary, everything they say or do indicates that the Greek Cypriots feel that they have finally come to the point of consolidating and strengthening their usurped status as the "sole government" in Cyprus and becoming the supreme rulers of the island through membership in the European Union.

If the Russian Federation genuinely desires to help ease the tension on the island, it is our firm view that it can do so by halting the sale of heavy and

sophisticated armaments to the Greek Cypriot administration, such as the T-80U battle tanks and the S-300 missile system.

(Signed) Rauf R. DENKTAŞ
President

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/396
14 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 14 MAY 1998 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ETHIOPIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from His Excellency Mr. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, addressed to you, and a copy of a statement by the Council of Ministers of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia regarding the unprovoked and totally senseless violation of Ethiopian sovereignty carried out by the State of Eritrea on 12 May 1998.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Fesseha A. TESSEMA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

98-13463 (E) 150598

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Annex

Letter dated 14 May 1998 from the Prime Minister of Ethiopia addressed to the President of the Security Council

It is with a deep and excruciating sense of sadness that I wish to inform you of the unprovoked and totally senseless violation of Ethiopian sovereignty carried out by the State of Eritrea on 12 May 1998. On the date referred to, Eritrean troops moved into Ethiopian territory and, after attacking contingents of our Peoples' Militia and Police, occupied a few areas inside Ethiopia over which Eritrea has claims but concerning which there is understanding between Ethiopia and Eritrea that the issue should be settled through negotiations, a process which is already under way.

Our sub-region and Ethiopia and Eritrea, and their peoples, have had more than their share of suffering caused by war. This is the source of the anguish felt by Ethiopia over this sad incident.

Ethiopia feels that a speedy withdrawal of Eritrean troops from Ethiopian territory is a condition for arresting this situation and for seeking peaceful resolution of whatever disputes there are between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

While drawing your attention to this sad sicuation and enclosing herewith the statement issued on 13 May 1998 by the Council of Ministers of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on this turn of events, I wish to ask you to have the text of this message and its enclosure circulated as a document of the Security Council for information and so that there can be the necessary awareness by Council about this unpleasant turn of events between Ethiopia and Eritrea, which is in no way of Ethiopia's making and for which Eritrea would have to take full responsibility.

(Signed) Meles ZENAWI
Prime Minister

Enclosure

Statement of the Council of Ministers of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

The Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and all the peoples of our country have been making strenuous efforts to ensure the prevalence of a durable peace within Ethiopia and in the sub-region. To this end, we have not only striven to build peace within the country, but we have deployed ourselves to the same degree in making unrelenting efforts to develop relations with neighbouring countries, on the basis of respect for equality and sovereignty. In the conviction that the peoples of our region will be the beneficiaries of the development of neighbourly relations based on peace and mutual benefit, we have stood steadfastly for peace. Our stand in support of regional peace will continue to be maintained in the future.

The endeavours of the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and all the peoples of our country to ensure peaceful relations with neighbouring countries are undertaken with the conviction that border claims can be resolved through peaceful means. On this basis, we, for our part, have been trying to resolve claims relating to some localities on our borders with Eritrea peacefully and through negotiation.

This being the fact, the Eritrean Government and the ruling Popular Front for Justice and Democracy have chosen to resolve the border issue by force reneging on the process of peaceful settlement of the matter. Consequently, they have, on 12 May 1998, entered Ethiopian territory which they have been claiming. They have clashed with police and local militia forces present to maintain the security of the area and are in control of some positions.

The Ethiopian Government vehemently condemns this move of the Eritrean Government and the Popular Front since it violates the sovereignty of Ethiopia and obstructs the ongoing efforts to resolve issues of claims in a peaceful manner. Furthermore, Ethiopia demands that the Eritrean Government unconditionally and immediately withdraw from Ethiopian territory and cease its provocative and belligerent activity. In the event that the Eritrean Government and the Popular Front do not desist from this dangerous action and withdraw from Ethiopian territory without any precondition, the Ethiopian Government will take all the necessary measures that the situation demands to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country.

Council of Ministers
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
13 May 1998

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14 May 1998
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda items 64 and 81
COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 14 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement of 13 May 1998 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the underground testing of three nuclear devices at the Pokaran test site in India.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter and its annex as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 64 and 81, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Akmaral Kh. ARYSTANBEKOVA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan
to the United Nations

98-13481 (E) 150598 150598

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ANNEX

Statement of 13 May 1998 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan is authorized to state that the news of the conduct on 11 May 1998 of underground testing of three nuclear devices at the Pokaran test site in India was received in Kazakhstan with deep concern. This action jeopardizes the progress in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons achieved since the indefinite extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the signing of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

India's conduct of nuclear tests will lead to an escalation of tension in the region. Kazakhstan remains of the view that the conditions put forward by India for its accession to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty should be discussed exclusively through negotiations with a view to arriving at mutually acceptable decisions on the existing problems in the field of nuclear disarmament.

The Republic of Kazakhstan calls on India to renounce the nuclear option and reaffirm to achieve a safe and stable world, global partnership and economic development.

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15 May 1998

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 64
COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Identical letters dated 15 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly and to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit to you the attached letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand, the Right Honourable Don McKinnon, concerning the conduct of nuclear tests by India.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter together with its annex issued as a document of the General Assembly, under item 64, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Michael J. POWLES
Permanent Representative

98-13615 (E) 150598

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Annex

Letter dated 15 May 1998 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand concerning the conduct of nuclear tests by India

I am writing to record New Zealand's grave concerns about the testing of five nuclear devices by India. New Zealand condemns these tests, as we have condemned all nuclear testing in the past. We welcome the presidential statement from the Security Council strongly deploring the tests.

The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 1996, has been signed by an overwhelming number of countries. This represents the culmination of years of effort by New Zealand and others to bring about an end to nuclear testing for all time. We are deeply disappointed that India, which has always professed its commitment to nuclear disarmament, has failed to live up to these ideals. We call upon India unconditionally to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

New Zealand also appeals to India's neighbours to remain calm in response to these events. It is imperative that there should be no further steps which might weaken the international norm against nuclear testing. We accordingly urge all States that have not yet done so to sign the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty without delay.

These events must not be allowed to set back the nuclear disarmament process. It is vital that we continue to move forward towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1998/399
15 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 MAY 1998 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to attach the following two statements concerning the sudden crisis between the State of Eritrea and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, issued in Asmara, Eritrea on 14 and 15 May 1998, respectively:

1. Statement of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Government of Eritrea

2. Statement of the Government of Eritrea calling for an independent inspection

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate the present letter and its annexes as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tesfa Alem SEYOUM
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

98-13622 (E) 150598

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Annex I

Statement of 14 May 1998 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Government of Eritrea

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Government of Eritrea has held a meeting in Asmara today, Thursday, 14 May 1998, to consider the statement issued by the Council of Ministers of the Federal Democratic Government of Ethiopia which accuses Eritrea of inciting conflict and hatred and pursuing a policy of territorial expansion; condemns Eritrea, alleging that its army has invaded Ethiopian territory by crossing its borders; and warns that Ethiopia will take all the necessary measures to protect its territorial integrity.

The Government and people of Eritrea are greatly saddened by the tone and contents of these grave accusations.

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Government of Eritrea noted that there have been, and continue to exist, border disputes in certain localities along the common borders between Eritrea and Ethiopia. These problems have been instigated by the unlawful practices of the Ethiopian army, which occasionally made incursions into these Eritrean territories, dismantling the local administrative structures and committing crimes against the inhabitants.

But despite these periodic occurrences, the Cabinet asserted that the Government of Eritrea has been consistently endeavouring to resolve these recurrent problems through bilateral negotiations with the Government of Ethiopia in a calm and patient manner, cautious to not inflate the problem out of proportion and incite animosity between the two fraternal peoples. The Government of Eritrea has opted for this course of action because it believes that the international boundary between Eritrea and Ethiopia is very clear and non-controversial. It knows that the recurrent border incursions that continue to be perpetrated by Ethiopian forces basically emanate from the narrow perspectives of the Administrative Zones.

The Cabinet of Ministers further noted that a Joint Committee had been formed by both Governments to resolve these problems and to delineate on the ground the boundary line. The Cabinet of Ministers asserted that the Government of Eritrea has been exerting all the necessary efforts to expedite the process and facilitate the work of the Joint Committee.

But on Wednesday, 6 May 1998, while the Eritrean delegation was on its way to Addis Ababa for a meeting of the Joint Committee to discuss ways and means for accelerating its work, Ethiopian army contingents that had already penetrated into Eritrean territory in the areas around Badme (south-western Eritrea) opened fire and caused grave damage to Eritrean units that attempted to approach them for dialogue. This unprovoked attack subsequently triggered a cycle of clashes in the area.

Furthermore, while continued talks were under way to resolve the tension provoked by the first attack, an appalling statement aimed at sending an unnecessary message to the peoples of both countries and the international

community was issued by the Council of Ministers of the Federal Democratic Government of Ethiopia.

The Cabinet of Ministers reiterates its firm belief that the enduring mutual interests that exist and bind together the peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia cannot be jeopardized by any border dispute. The Cabinet of Ministers accordingly proposes the following framework as a solution to the problem, which has been blown out of proportion.

1. The Government of Eritrea condemns the use of force as it firmly believes and upholds that border disputes of any kind can only be resolved through peaceful and legal means, and not through military means.

2. On the basis of this principle, each party shall publicly announce to the peoples of Eritrea, Ethiopia and the international community the territories that it claims - if any - and designate them on the political map with clear geographical coordinates. Each party shall also accept that the dispute cannot and should not be resolved by force but through peaceful negotiations.

3. Both parties shall agree that all negotiations and understandings that will be conducted henceforth shall be carried out in the presence and through the mediation of a third party. The latter will act as witness and guarantor.

4. Areas under "dispute" shall be demilitarized temporarily and be free from the presence of armies of both countries. The enforcement of this understanding shall be guaranteed by the third party.

5. If the above proposal for resolving the dispute through the involvement of a third party and without further complications is not acceptable, the matter should be referred to international adjudication.

The Government of Eritrea firmly believes that attempts to inflate the minor and temporary problem that has been created along the borders of the two sister countries will not serve the fundamental interests of the Eritrean and Ethiopian peoples. The Government of Eritrea pledges that it will, heretofore, spare no efforts to handle the present problem with the requisite patience and responsibility. It does not, accordingly, see any wisdom in precipitating tension through inflammatory campaigns.

The Government of Eritrea therefore calls upon the Government of Ethiopia to pursue a similar path that will promote the interests and good-neighbourliness of the peoples of both countries. The Cabinet of Ministers of the Government of Eritrea further reasserts its belief that the peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia will maintain and preserve their mutual interests rooted in peace, good-neighbourliness and cooperation.

Annex II

Statement of 15 May 1998 of the Government of Eritrea calling for an independent inspection

Persisting in its negative approach of imparting a dangerous dimension to the crisis that has unfolded in the past few days, the Ethiopian Government continues to accuse Eritrea of occupying Ethiopian territory by deploying tanks and heavy artillery in the area.

As the statement of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Government of Eritrea issued yesterday, 14 May 1998, asserts, Eritrea has not violated the internationally recognized borders between the two countries to encroach on Ethiopian territory. The Government of Eritrea has, moreover, called for a total demilitarization of the areas claimed by either side to allow for the smooth and speedy resolution of the current crisis through the facilitation of a third party.

The Government of Eritrea in addition expresses its readiness to accept an independent inspection by any third party to verify the facts of the matter on the ground.

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15 May 1998

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda items 36, 37 and 87
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Identical letters dated 15 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of May 1998, and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention.

Today, 15 May 1998, the Arab world commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of al-nakba (the catastrophe), the dispossession of the Palestinian people and the uprooting of over 750,000 Palestinians from their land and homes. Since then, and for half a century, the Palestinian people have continued to endure grave injustices and suffer from all forms of persecution and denial of their basic human and national rights. There have been numerous Security Council and General Assembly resolutions calling for an end to the injustices that befell upon the Palestinian people and for the achievement of their national and human rights, including their right to self-determination.

One of the most relevant resolutions of this occasion is General Assembly resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 on the partition of Palestine. That resolution called for the creation of Arab and Jewish States no later than October 1948. On the strength of that resolution Israel declared its establishment 50 years ago. The Arab State called for in the partition resolution has never materialized. Over the past five decades the international

community, through the United Nations, has reaffirmed its call for the implementation of all United Nations resolutions related to the question of Palestine and on many occasions has censured Israel for its violation of relevant United Nations resolutions and international law.

What adds to the bitterness of the occasion is the crime perpetrated by the occupying Israeli army against the Palestinian people during the commemoration of this sad anniversary, which resulted in killing nine Palestinians and injuring hundreds. Furthermore, this anniversary comes at a time when the Middle East peace process is at a dangerous crossroads as a result of the intransigence of the Israeli Government and its defiance of the will of the international community, international law and the efforts of the co-sponsors of the peace process.

It is the duty of the international community to ensure respect for all United Nations resolutions and to exert the necessary effort to implement those resolutions leading to a just resolution of the Palestine question and a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36, 37 and 87, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gaafar M. ALLAGANY
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations
Chairman of the Arab Group

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Security Council

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S/1998/401
18 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 15 May 1998, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Blagoj Handziski, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia, concerning the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP). I should be grateful if you would bring the contents of the letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Naste CALOVSKI
Ambassador

98-13697 (E) 180598

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Annex

Letter dated 15 May 1998 from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Allow me to express my high esteem to you and to avail myself of this opportunity to state our arguments for the need to extend the stay of the mission of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) in the Republic of Macedonia after 31 August of this year.

As is well known, on the basis of our letter of 3 November 1997 in which, based upon an extensive argumentation, we requested an extension of the stay of the UNPREDEP mission in the Republic of Macedonia, and your report of 20 November 1997 (S/1997/911), the Security Council adopted resolution 1142 (1997) of 4 December 1997.

By that resolution, the Security Council:

1. Decided to extend the mandate of UNPREDEP until 31 August 1998, to be followed by withdrawal of the military component immediately thereafter;

2. Requested the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council by 1 June 1998 on the modalities of the termination of UNPREDEP, including practical steps for full withdrawal of the military component after 31 August 1998, and to make recommendations for the type of international presence thereafter, most appropriate for the Republic of Macedonia.

The Security Council had obviously taken into account your observations about the positive developments in the area, especially the stabilization of the situation in Albania and your belief that peace and stability in the Republic of Macedonia continue to depend largely on developments in other parts of the region. In paragraph 24 of your report you enumerated the majority of the arguments contained in our letter which, among other things, pointed to the possibilities for negative developments in some parts of the region, particularly in Kosovo, as external factors of instability, about which you concluded that, although "none of those factors represents an immediate threat to peace and stability in the host country, they highlight the level of unpredictability of, and the dangers inherent in, developments outside the control of the host country's authorities".

Regretfully, both your concerns about the unpredictability of the developments and the dangers they contain and our apprehension that the situation in some parts of the region, especially to the north of us, will further deteriorate were justified.

In spite of our efforts to sustain the course of open cooperation with all the neighbouring countries - efforts that have thus far resulted in a significant improvement in the relations of the Republic of Macedonia with the Hellenic Republic and, in particular, with the Republic of Albania - what still remains open is the issue of the demarcation of the inter-State border with the

Federal Republic of Yugoslavia which, in view of the current developments in Kosovo, which abuts part of that border, has acquired quite different and dangerous dimensions.

Also, in spite of the overall engagement of the international community, especially the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the European Union (EU) and the Contact Group, and their recommendations for the commencement of a dialogue without preconditions for a political settlement of the crisis in Kosovo, and in spite of the full support and constructive approach with regard to this issue on the part of the countries of the region, including the Republic of Macedonia, the situation in Kosovo is still further deteriorating in the direction of direct military conflicts that could spread throughout the region and cause its destabilization and dreadful consequences for the peace and stability in the whole of Europe.

The Republic of Macedonia has, over past years, invested enormous efforts in protecting its border with the Republic of Albania and particularly the part of its border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that faces Kosovo, and has so far achieved maximum results in safeguarding it and in preventing illegal border crossings and eventual arms smuggling from the Republic of Albania. In this connection, I would like to underline the enormous contribution made by the OSCE mission, the Monitoring Mission of the European Commission, and especially of the UNPREDEP mission in the Republic of Macedonia, and also to point to all their reports confirming the security at those borders.

I would in particular like to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Macedonia has undertaken comprehensive measures for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998 imposing an embargo on all kinds of weapons against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

I would like once again to express gratitude to the United Nations and the Security Council, as well as to all the contributing countries for the deployment of this mission, which has undoubtedly been one of the most successful United Nations missions ever, and has played an outstanding role in the stabilization of the situation along our northern and western borders and all along acted as a deterrent and as a stabilizing factor for the whole region. Of decisive importance for this kind of efficiency has been the clear-cut mandate, the professionalism of all the participants from all the countries, the structure of the military component of the mission as well as the outstanding cooperation between its civilian and military leaders and the institutions of the Republic of Macedonia, especially the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Interior. These were the basic reasons why UNPREDEP was hailed by all the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and its members accepted as genuine missionaries of peace.

Under conditions of:

- Negative developments to the north of our border, especially in Kosovo, and danger of direct military conflicts;

- An as yet undemarcated border between the Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

- Tensions along the Albanian-Yugoslav border, which could over a longer period be a source of instability;

the peace and stability of the neighbouring countries, including the Republic of Macedonia, could be endangered and therefore we believe that if UNPREDEP should be terminated on 31 August, and especially if its military component is to be withdrawn, a security gap will inevitably arise, not only along our northern and western borders, but also in the wider region.

We expect that the United Nations, as well as the States members of the Security Council, will take into account the aforementioned factors of instability, especially to the north of our borders, and will adopt a resolution by which the stay of UNPREDEP in the Republic of Macedonia will be extended, under the same mandate, structure and proportions between the Nordic and the American battalions, for the six months following 31 August 1998.

In accordance with Security Council resolution 1110 (1997) of 28 May 1997, the original military component of 1,050 was reduced by 300 troops. The current military component is 750 troops.

We believe that in case of further deterioration of the situation in Kosovo the military experts of UNPREDEP, in cooperation with, and upon the agreement of, the authorities of the Republic of Macedonia, should seriously consider the possibility of strengthening the military component, while maintaining the current structure and proportions between the Nordic and the American battalions.

(Signed) Blagoj HANDZISKI

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Fifty-second session
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COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 14 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the attached statement issued on 12 May 1998 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in response to the underground nuclear tests conducted by India on 11 May 1998.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 64 and 71, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volodymyr YEL'CHENKO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Ukraine to the United Nations

98-13730 (E) 180598

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ANNEX

Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on 12 May 1998

On 11 May 1998, India conducted three underground nuclear tests.

This event has aroused profound concern in Ukraine as it undermines the moratorium on nuclear testing which the States of the world have been observing for a long time.

Our State, whose people have experienced the terrible consequences of radiation exposure, believes that none of the defence or security considerations of any country can justify the resumption of nuclear testing.

Ukraine, which voluntarily renounced it arsenal - the world's third largest - of nuclear weapons and refrained from nuclear testing, condemns this act of India which constitutes a threat to existing international agreements in the field of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Ukraine calls upon the Governments of India and other States to cooperate more actively in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and towards the final prohibition of nuclear weapons.

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S/1998/403
18 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 7 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BULGARIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1132 (1997) of 8 October 1997, in which the Council requested Member States to report to the Secretary-General on the steps taken by them to give effect to the provisions specified in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the above resolution.

In this respect, we would like to inform you that the competent Bulgarian authorities are taking all necessary measures to implement the above-mentioned provisions. A copy of the list of the members of the military junta and the adult members of their families was sent to the Ministry of the Interior for further implementation. In addition, Sierra Leone has been put on the list of countries whose citizens shall not be granted entry or transit visas unless specially authorized by the Bulgarian Government.

98-13755 (E) 180598

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S/1998/404
18 May 1998

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PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE SITUATION CONCERNING WESTERN SAHARA

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1163 (1998) of 17 April 1998, by which the Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) until 20 July 1998, and requested me to report to it every 30 days on the progress made in the implementation of the settlement plan (S/21360 and S/22464 and Corr.1) and the agreements reached by the parties, the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguía el-Hamra y del Río de Oro (Frente POLISARIO), under the auspices of my Personal Envoy, Mr. James A. Baker III (S/1997/742, annexes I to III).

II. DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

2. During the reporting period, my Special Representative, Mr. Charles F. Dunbar, met with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Geneva on 20 April 1998, with the Secretary-General of the Frente POLISARIO and the POLISARIO Coordinator with MINURSO in the Tindouf area on 23 April and 8 May 1998 and with the Minister of State and of the Interior of Morocco at Rabat on 5 and 12 May 1998. My Special Representative also met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria at Algiers on 5 May 1998. In Mauritania, he visited the identification centres at Nouadhibou and Zouerate, where he met with local officials on 3 May 1998.

Identification process

3. In April 1998, the pace of the identification process was much slower than expected, with only two and a half weeks of work accomplished. No identification session took place in the Mission area in the two weeks beginning on 6 and on 27 April 1998. As a result, MINURSO identified only 7,427 applicants during that month. In Mauritania, the identification centre in Nouadhibou opened on 13 April 1998. As had been decided in my report to the Security Council of 15 January 1998 (S/1998/35), identification sessions also started in northern Morocco, at El Kelaa des Sraghna on 22 April and at Sidi Kacem on 6 May 1998.

98-13493 (E) 180598

4. Following discussions with the Chairman of the Identification Commission in late April 1998, the two parties agreed to the programme of identification for the month of May 1998. The programme provides for a substantially higher rate of identification, with at times as many as 10 teams operating concurrently in the Territory, the Tindouf area, Morocco and Mauritania. The Moroccan Government undertook to provide additional support to the identification operation, in the form of air transportation for its observers and Saharan sheikhs between Laayoune and the locations at which identification is to take place in Morocco (at El Kelaa des Sraghna and Sidi Kacem, each with two operating MINURSO teams, and Marrakech, with one team starting from 25 May 1998). Since 4 May 1998, identification activities have proceeded without incident.

5. In its discussion of the programme for May, the Frente POLISARIO asked MINURSO to include, in the Tindouf area and in Mauritania, the identification of those applicants from tribal groups H41, H61 and J51/52 who are listed in the 1974 census of the Territory and are therefore entitled, under the Houston agreements, to be convoked together with their immediate families. According to MINURSO's records, there are 603 such individuals. However, Morocco refused to participate in their identification until the overall issue of the eligibility of some 65,000 applicants from the above three groups is resolved. Thus, identification of those 603 individuals could not take place since the process requires the presence of observers of the two parties, as called for in my predecessor's compromise proposal of 1993 on the interpretation and application of the criteria and procedures for establishing the identity of prospective voters (S/26185, annex I).

6. As at 11 May 1998, 78,002 applicants had been convoked by MINURSO for identification since the resumption of the process in December 1997. Of those, 51,132 came before the Identification Commission to be interviewed. With the 60,112 applicants who had been identified during the first phase of the identification process (August 1994-December 1995), this brings the total number of persons identified thus far to 111,244. Fewer than 50,000 applicants from "non-contested" tribes remain to be convoked.

7. Ways of dealing with the 65,000 applicants from groups H41, H61 and J51/52 have yet to be found. My Special Representative is consulting with the two parties in the search for possible solutions to this outstanding issue. So far, both sides have maintained their positions with respect to these three groups. The Moroccan authorities maintain that all 65,000 applicants have the right to be identified in order to determine their eligibility to vote. Unless an overall solution is found for all these applicants, the Moroccan authorities remain opposed to the proposal, contained in paragraph 8 of my report of 13 April 1998 (S/1998/316), that MINURSO complete, as a first step, the identification of the 4,000 individuals who had presented themselves on the days of convocation of members from the above three groups who are listed in the 1974 census and their immediate families. While having accepted this proposal, the Frente POLISARIO also remains opposed to the identification of any applicants from these three groups other than those listed in the 1974 census and their immediate families.

Military aspects

8. As at 7 May 1998, the military component of MINURSO stood at 243 observers and other military personnel (see annex). Under the command of Maj.-Gen. Bernd S. Lubenik (Austria), the military component continues to monitor the ceasefire between the Royal Moroccan Army and the Frente POLISARIO forces, which came into effect on 6 September 1991. Both sides are adhering to the military agreement that they reached this year with the Force Commander. The MINURSO area of responsibility remains calm and there have been no indications that either side intends to resume hostilities.

9. During the reporting period, preparations for the deployment of the engineering unit of MINURSO continued. An advance party of the engineering company from Pakistan arrived in Agadir and contingent-owned equipment was unloaded at this Moroccan port. Pakistani and Swedish staff officers were also deployed to MINURSO headquarters in Laayoune. The Moroccan Government identified sites for the initial deployment of the unit. The deployment is under way and should be completed by mid-June 1998.

10. The draft status-of-forces agreements, submitted to Morocco on 31 March 1998, and to Algeria and Mauritania on 3 April 1998, are still being reviewed by the three Governments. Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1163 (1998) and in accordance with the established practice in all United Nations peacekeeping operations, I urge the three Governments to respond positively, so that these agreements can be signed without undue delay.

Civilian police aspects

11. The number of civilian police officers assigned to MINURSO stands at 78 out of an approved total of 81 (see annex). Under the command of the Civil Police Commissioner, Chief Superintendent Peter Miller (Canada), the civilian police component of MINURSO continues to work closely with the Identification Commission to ensure the smooth conduct of the identification operation.

Preparatory work for the repatriation of Saharan refugees

12. During the reporting period, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continued operational coordination with MINURSO, covering such issues as accommodation for staff and field offices. A UNHCR headquarters mission visited Rabat on 23 April 1998 to discuss with the Moroccan authorities the formalization of UNHCR's presence in Laayoune, with a view to establishing a joint coordination mechanism for operational matters. Another mission from UNHCR headquarters visited Algiers and the Tindouf area, from 28 April to 7 May 1998, to discuss with relevant authorities UNHCR's ongoing preparatory activities in the Tindouf camps, including physical infrastructure and logistics planning.

13. Technical problems that were raised by the parties regarding UNHCR's planning and selection of implementing partners are being addressed with the relevant authorities. It is hoped that these problems will be solved soon so that further delays in the overall planning and implementation of the UNHCR repatriation programme under the settlement plan may be avoided.

14. In Mauritania, UNHCR has thus far pre-registered 6,110 persons at Zouerate and 1,182 persons at Nouadhibou. At camp Dakhla in the Tindouf area, the exercise ended with the pre-registration of 17,900 refugees. At camp Smara, pre-registration is scheduled to start in the third week of May 1998.

15. UNHCR is planning to hold a regional repatriation planning workshop by the end of May 1998. In addition to staff from UNHCR headquarters and the field, MINURSO and the World Food Programme will also attend the workshop. UNHCR is also planning a coordination meeting with non-governmental organizations for early June 1998.

III. OBSERVATIONS

16. While the pace of identification was slow during the month of April 1998, it is expected to increase substantially in May, as described in paragraph 5 above. Both parties have demonstrated willingness to cooperate to this effect. The Identification Commission is now in a position to programme the remaining work required with respect to applicants from the "non-contested" tribes: the Commission expects to complete their identification at the latest by the end of August 1998, provided both parties cooperate fully.

17. In the meantime, progress has been made towards the deployment of the engineering unit of MINURSO and the start of its demining activities in the Mission area.

18. UNHCR has also advanced in its preparatory work for the repatriation of Saharan refugees eligible to vote and their immediate families. In this regard, I expect that the return of refugees to the Territory will be effected under safe conditions, enabling them to participate in the referendum without administrative and military constraints, in accordance with the settlement plan and the principles and modalities set out in my report of 13 November 1997 (S/1997/882, paras. 22 to 26).

19. However, no consensus solution on ways of dealing with the 65,000 applicants from tribal groups H41, H61 and J51/52 has been found as yet. My Special Representative will continue to discuss with the Government of Morocco and the Frente POLISARIO practical and concrete ways of resolving this problem by the end of June 1998. To this effect, I urge the two parties to cooperate with him in the search for appropriate solutions, with a view to enabling the successful and timely completion of the identification process. Once my Special Representative has completed his consultations and assessed the views of the parties, he will submit to me recommendations as to how this critical issue should be addressed.

Annex

United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara: contributions as at 7 May 1998

	Military observers	Civilian police observers	Staff officers	Troops	Total
Argentina	1	-	-	-	1
Austria	5	-	-	-	5*
Bangladesh	6	-	-	-	6
Canada	-	5	-	-	5**
China	16	-	-	-	16
Egypt	19	2	-	-	21
El Salvador	2	-	-	-	2
France	25	-	-	-	25
Ghana	6	10	-	7	23
Greece	1	-	-	-	1
Guinea	3	-	-	-	3
Honduras	12	-	-	-	12
Ireland	8	-	-	-	8
India	-	10	-	-	10
Italy	5	-	-	-	5
Kenya	8	-	-	-	8
Malaysia	13	10	-	-	23
Nigeria	5	10	-	-	15
Norway	-	2	-	-	2
Pakistan	5	10	5	5	25
Poland	3	-	-	-	3
Portugal	4	10	-	-	14
Republic of Korea	-	-	-	20	20
Russian Federation	25	-	-	-	25
Sweden	-	9	3	-	12
Uruguay	13	-	-	-	13

	Military observers	Civilian police observers	Staff officers	Troops	Total
United States of America	15	-	-	-	15
Venezuela	3	-	-	-	3
Total	203	78	8	32	321

* In addition to the Force Commander.

** In addition to the police Commissioner.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/1998/405
18 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 18 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AFGHANISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter dated 17 May 1998 addressed to you from Dr. A. Abdullâh, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. G. Ravan FARHÂDI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-13813 (E) 190598

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Annex

Identical letters dated 17 May 1998 from the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Early on Sunday 17 May 1998, Taliban war planes bombed heavily populated civilian targets in the Takhar provincial capital of Taluqan, killing 31 local residents and leaving 42 injured, some seriously.

The bombings, in four sorties, deliberately directed at civilian targets, struck the city's popular farmers' and artisans' market (known as mandayi) early on Sunday in the city Taluqan.

It is important to note that the Taliban, who had attended the United Nations-sponsored peace talks at Islamabad, Pakistan, in bad faith, unilaterally abandoned the scheduled Steering Committee's meetings, ostensibly for a "short break" to Kandahar, on 30 April 1998, in total disregard for their previously agreed commitments, thus prompting the collapse of the peace talks.

The Taliban's renewed air raids on Taluqan have achieved nothing militarily. Nevertheless, they follow a series of other attacks carried out by the Taliban in the Bangi and Nahreen districts of the same region on 2 May 1998, including a vast offensive on Ishkamish on 7 May 1998. The attacks originated from the Taliban-held Kunduz enclave.

In an open challenge to the laws and the customs of warfare, in defiance of all United Nations Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, in an expressed contempt for all internationally recognized human rights and norms, the Taliban are continuing to perpetrate war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan follows with great interest the debate of the international community on the establishment of an international criminal court. The draft statute of the court contains explicit dispositions about starvation of a civilian population as a method of warfare and considers it a crime. The Taliban, as reported by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in December 1997 and also by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan in March 1998, not only blockaded the roads to Bamyan for nine months, but also prevented all humanitarian and relief supplies to the area.

We all bitterly recall, on one occasion at least, that the Taliban mercenaries bombed United Nations chartered airplanes at Bamyan airport in central Afghanistan, while an emergency airlift by the United Nations of highly needed foodstuff for the local non-combatants in the province was in progress. The repeated calls on the Taliban by the United Nations to let the emergency humanitarian operation continue went totally unheard.

In addition, the Taliban have been reported by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan to have focused on

the civilians of some ethnic groups in Afghanistan as the main target of their military operations. Two hundred and fifty thousand civilians were deported by the Taliban in the winter of 1997 because of their ethnic origin. This practice is deliberately being continued by the Taliban against the civilian population of Bamyan in central Afghanistan, an act considered to be a grave violation of humanitarian law subject to prosecution and punishment.

In view of the exacerbated belligerence and intransigence of the Taliban and the continued killings of the civilian population through its indiscriminate bombardments and shellings, one would find it rational to conclude that the Taliban mercenaries in Afghanistan have definitively decided to strive for a solely military solution.

It is further important to realize that the lip-service given by the military intelligence service of Pakistan to the Taliban's return to the negotiating table conceals a pre-schemed attempt to cover up the increasingly brutal military acts of the Taliban against the peacemaking efforts of the United Nations, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the international community.

Cognizant of the fact that the United Nations is unambiguous in its findings of the cause of deterioration of the situation in Afghanistan through the series of events in the country, I should like to reiterate the unchanged stance of my Government in recognizing the central role of the United Nations for bringing peace to Afghanistan in cooperation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the rest of the world family.

(Signed) Dr. A. ABDULLÂH
Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs
Islamic State of Afghanistan

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General Assembly
Security Council

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A/52/908
S/1998/406
19 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda items 38, 81, 97, 98 and 152
SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO
PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR
RESTORED DEMOCRACIES
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC COOPERATION
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 14 May 1998 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the joint declaration by the Presidents of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey on the development of relations of friendship, good-neighbourliness and cooperation among the three countries on the occasion of the ground-breaking ceremony of the Deriner Dam on 26 April 1998 in Trabzon, Turkey (see annex).

We should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as documents of the General Assembly under agenda items 38, 81, 97, 98 and 152 and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Eldar G. KOULIEV
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the Azerbaijani Republic

(Signed) Peter P. CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Georgia

(Signed) Vulkan VURAL
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Turkey

ANNEX

Joint statement of the Presidents of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey issued at Trabzon, Turkey, on 26 April 1998

1. The President of the Azerbaijani Republic, Mr. Heydar Aliyev, the President of Georgia, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze and the President of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Süleyman Demirel, met in the city of Trabzon, Turkey, on 26 April 1998 on the occasion of the ground-breaking ceremony of the Deriner Dam, and considered the further enhancement of friendship, cooperation and good-neighbourliness among the three countries.

2. The Presidents expressed their readiness to further develop and deepen the existing relations of special friendship, good-neighbourliness and cooperation among the Azerbaijani Republic, Georgia and the Republic of Turkey. They stated that they viewed those relations as an increasingly developing and significant element of peace and stability, economic development and closeness based on mutual interests among the peoples in the region.

3. The Presidents referred to the importance of expanding and increasing the effectiveness of joint efforts, both at the regional and international levels, to ensure security and stability in the region. They emphasized the urgency of peaceful settlement of conflicts in the region, based on the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and the inviolability of borders. They underlined the necessity to increase the effectiveness of joint efforts in the struggle against aggressive separatism and all forms of terrorism.

4. The President of the Republic of Turkey expressed his support to the realization of the principles of the Tbilisi Declaration on Peace, Security and Cooperation in the Caucasus Region (A/51/89, annex), signed by the President of the Azerbaijani Republic and the President of Georgia.

5. The Presidents emphasized the importance of increased economic cooperation, as well as of joint efforts for the preparation and realization of wide-scale regional projects. Emphasizing the importance attached to the realization of the east-west energy corridor, crossing the Caspian and Caucasia, which they assessed to be one of the primary routes for the transport of the energy resources of the Caspian Basin, the Presidents expressed their readiness to take concrete steps towards the implementation of projects concerning transportation of Azeri oil by the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan route and of Caspian Basin natural gas to Turkey through Azerbaijan and Georgia.

6. The Presidents underlined the importance of the development of the historic Silk Route and of the Eurasian transportation corridor TRASECA, as well as of the acceleration of the construction of the Kars-Tbilisi railway, a high-priority element of this corridor.

7. The Presidents stressed the importance of joint efforts aimed at the protection of the environment, including the Black Sea, the Turkish Straits and transboundary ecosystems.

8. The Presidents noted with satisfaction that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Region has entered into a new stage of development, and that its transformation into a regional international organization would undoubtedly make a great contribution to the enhancement of economic cooperation among the countries of the Black Sea Basin.

9. The Presidents agreed to take steps that in the future would bring closer the countries of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Region and of the Caspian Basin and that would enable the deepening of mutual understanding and, on that basis, confidence and mutual respect among the peoples of the region.

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GENERAL

S/1998/407
19 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 MAY 1998 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT).

On 31 May 1998, Mr. Gerd Merrem will be relinquishing his post as my Special Representative for Tajikistan. Following the usual consultations, I wish to inform the Security Council of my intention to appoint Mr. Ján Kubiš of Slovakia to the above-mentioned position.

Mr. Merrem will be retiring from United Nations service after a long and distinguished career. I wish to place on record my warm appreciation for the important contribution he has made to the work of the Organization, and in particular for his part in bringing about the general peace agreement.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

98-13889 (E) 190598

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Security Council

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S/1998/408
19 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 19 MAY 1998 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 15 May 1998 (S/1998/407) concerning your intention to appoint Mr. Ján Kubiš (Slovakia) as your Special Representative for Tajikistan has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They agree with the intention contained in your letter.

(Signed) Njuguna M. MAHUGU, OGW
President of the Security Council

98-13895 (E) 190598

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/1998/409
19 May 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 18 MAY 1998 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued between 1 and 15 May 1998 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

Your intervention is requested with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused, 1-15 May 1998

1. In the northern region 80 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Zakho, Irbil, Tall Afar and Baibo.

2. In the southern region 799 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Artawi, Ushbayjah, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Qurnah, Chabaish, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Habbariyah, Basrah, Hayy, Shatrah, Amarah, Diwaniyah, Rifa'i, Nukhayb, Qal'at Sukkar, Hisan, Suq al-Shuyukh, Hamzah, Maymunah, Abu Sukhayr, Taqtaqanah, Nu'maniyah, Umm Qasr, Lasaf, Ukhaydir, Afak and Ali al-Sharqi.

3. Twelve violations were committed by TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at altitudes of 20,000 metres and at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour.

4. At 1900 hours on 20 April 1998 United States aircraft dropped heat flares on cultivated land in the Hammam area of Gharraf district in Dhi Qar Governorate.

5. At 1150, 1310, 1407, 1545, 1715, 1100, 1610 and 1617 hours on 26 and 27 April 1998 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qasr and Faw.

6. At 1000, 1037, 1413, 1425 and 1740 hours on 29 April 1998 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qasr.

7. At 1545, 1340, 1130 and 1200 hours on 2, 3 and 7 May 1998 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qasr.

8. At 1128 and 1027 hours on 5 and 10 May 1998 a formation consisting of two United States aircraft broke the sound barrier over Mosul and Tall Kayf.

9. At 1120, 1405, 0850, 0940 and 1534 hours on 8 and 9 May 1998 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qasr.